

United States Congress

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 29, 2011

Ms. Martha N. Johnson
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Room 6137
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Administrator Johnson:

We were extremely disappointed that the GSA portion of the full-year Continuing Resolution for FY11 approved by Congress included only \$82 million for GSA construction projects and no designated funding for the Food and Drug Administration consolidation at White Oak in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, Maryland.

As GSA prepares the required plan for Congress on its intended use of the \$82 million, we urge you to include as much funding as possible for the FDA project.

Unless additional funding is provided, FDA will lack a fully functional laboratory capability in its Life Sciences-Biodefense cluster of laboratory and support facilities. We are advised that this, in turn, will prevent FDA from properly carrying out its mission to develop, test and license vaccines and other countermeasures needed to protect our citizens against bioterrorism threats.

Moreover, we understand that if some of the FY 11 funds are not forthcoming, the Life Sciences-Biodefense cluster will have to be redesigned. The result would be significant additional cost to the taxpayers and construction delays. We also understand that some 500 construction jobs will not be realized if no part of the requested funds is provided.

Again, we request that as much funding as possible be directed toward the FDA consolidation so that this 12-year-old project can be brought to a successful conclusion in an effective and timely manner.

Sincerely,

Ben Card

Barbara Mikulski

Donna F. Edwards

Richard Hanna

Stacy Hoyer